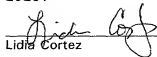


JOINT INVENTORS

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Lidia Cortez

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, Richard A. Descenzo, a citizen of the
United States, residing at 3808 Launenburg Avenue, Modesto, 95357, State
of California and Nancy A. Irelan, a citizen of the United States, residing at
3108 Tuxford Lane, Modesto, 95350, State of California have invented a
new and useful LIPOXYGENASE GENES FROM VITIS VINIFERA, of which the
following is a specification.

LIPOXYGENASE GENES FROM VITIS VINIFERA

This application claims benefit of U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/241,220 filed October 16, 2000.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Lipoxygenase enzymes belong to a large, multigene-family involved in the regulation and biosynthesis of a number of biologically active compounds. They have been implicated in a number of processes including senescence, plant growth and development, mobilization of lipid reserves during seed germination disease resistance responses, vegetative storage proteins and in the production of flavor and scent compounds. The present invention is directed to the involvement of lipoxygenase enzymes in the production of flavor compounds or precursors and is particularly directed to the role of lipoxygenase enzymes in the fruit of *Vitis vinifera* (grape).

There is evidence in the literature of a connection between lipoxygenase enzyme (LOX) activity and the production of compounds associated with flavor in grape. See e.g., Cayrel et al., Amer. J. of Enology and Viticulture 34:77-82 (1983); Crouzet et al., Progress in Flavour Research 1984, Proceedings of the 4th Weurman Flavour Research Symposium (J. Adda ed.) Elsevier Science Publishers, (1985); Waldman and Schreier, J. of Agri. Food Chem., 43:626-630 (1995); O'Conner and O'Brien, Food Enzymology 1: 337-372 (1991); Gardner, HW in: Flavor Chemistry of Lipid Foods. Eds. Min, D.B. and Smouse, T.H. The American Oil Chemists' Society (1989); Angerosa, F., et al. J. of Agri. Food Chem. 47: 836-839 (1999); and Hanataka, Food Review International, 12:303-350 (1996). Oxidation of linoleic and linolenic acids by LOX produces C9 and C13 hydroperoxides that can be further modified by other enzymes to produce C6, C9, and C12 compounds with characteristic flavors and aroma. Such C6 compounds associated with flavors and aroma include 3Z-hexenal, 3E-hexenal, 2E-hexenal, 3Z-hexenol, 3E-hexenol, 2E-hexenol, n-hexenal and n-hexenol. Such C9 compounds associated with flavors and aroma including 3Z=6Z-nonadienal,

2E-6Z-nonadienal, 3Z-6Z-nonadienol, 2E-6Z-nonadienol, 9-oxo-nonanoic acid, 3Z-nonenal, 2E-nonenal, 3Z-nonenol, 2E-nonenol and C12 flavor and aroma compounds include 12-oxo-9Z-dodecenoic acid and 12-ox-10E-dodecenoic acid.

Production of these volatiles depends on the initial fatty acid substrate, the particular LOX isozyme, and the presence of other enzymes required for formation of the different volatile compounds. In addition, free radicals released during the oxidation of fatty acids by LOX can potentially induce cooxidation of carotenoid compounds yielding a number of flavor and aroma compounds.

Lipoxygenase has been characterized in a number of species and in most cases is encoded by a member of a large gene family. In soybean, LOX is comprised of a highly conserved multigene family consisting of at least eight members. There are at least five vegetative LOX (VLX) genes involved in nitrogen storage function, that represent a major storage protein in soybean leaves. Of these, VLXD proteins increase in sink limited soybeans. VLXC+D are degraded preferentially during pod maturation, and VLXC has a dual role as a storage protein and a cytosolic enzyme. There are also three LOX genes found in the seeds, LX1, LX2 and LX3. Analysis of cloned LOX genes reveals a highly conserved 70 kd globular domain and a 30 kd beta-barrel domain. In addition it has been observed that the N-terminus of the LOX genes is extremely divergent. (Howard Grimes presentation at the 1999 American Society of Plant Physiology titled, "Lipoxygenase Function in Assimilate Partitioning") In most plants analyzed, there exist LOX genes with similarity to both the vegetative and seed type lipoxygenases found in soybean.

Despite the identification and cloning of LOX genes in a number of plant species including soybean (*Glycine max.*), *Solanum tuberosum*, *Hordeum vulgare*, *Oryza sativa*, *Arabidopsis thaliana*, *Cucumis sativa* and *Prunus dulcis*, LOX genes have not been cloned from *Vitis vinifera* and there exists no source to obtain pure lipoxygenase from grape. Accordingly, there exists a desire in the art for pure *Vitis vinifera* LOX.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides purified and isolated polynucleotide encoding a *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: a) a polynucleotide comprising the sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4, b) a DNA which hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions to the non-coding strand of the polynucleotide of (a); and c) a DNA which would hybridize to the non-coding strand of the polynucleotide of (a) but for the redundancy of the genetic code. The polynucleotide of the invention is preferably a DNA molecule and is more preferably a cDNA molecule. Alternatively, the DNA is a wholly or partially chemically synthesized DNA molecule. According to another embodiment of the invention the polynucleotide is an a) anti-sense polynucleotide which specifically hybridizes with the polynucleotide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 b) a DNA which hybridizes under moderately stringent conditions to the non-coding strand of the polynucleotide of (a); and c) a DNA which would hybridize to the non-coding strand of the polynucleotide of (a) but for the redundancy of the genetic code. The invention also provides polynucleotides where the LOX encoding sequence is operably linked to a heterologous promoter. The invention also provides expression constructs, comprising the polynucleotide of the invention, as well as host cells transformed or transfected with a polynucleotide or expression construct of the invention. The invention also provides polynucleotides of the invention operably linked to a heterologous promoter, and host cell polynucleotides operably linked to a heterologous promoter.

Host cells transformed or transfected according to the invention include those which are *Vitis vinifera* cells. The invention also provides transformed plants comprising host cells transformed or transfected with the LOX gene. Transformed plants of the invention include those wherein the expression construct comprises a polynucleotide encoding a *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide operably linked to a heterologous promoter. According to one preferred embodiment the transformed plant is *Vitis vinifera*. Alternatively, transformed cells include microorganisms including those active in fermentation reactions and

including those selected from the group consisting of yeast and bacteria.

The invention also provides a purified and isolated *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3. Amino acid SEQ ID NOS: 1 and 3 were determined by analysis of polynucleotide SEQ ID NOS: 2 and 4, respectively, and comparison with known LOX amino acid sequences. The availability of purified LOX enzyme provided by the invention makes possible the use of the enzyme to modify food flavors by contacting a food or other comestible with a quantity of purified and isolated *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 under conditions selected to modify the flavor characteristics of the comestible. Food products, which can be treated according to the invention, include comestibles that are beverages. It is contemplated that the invention will be particularly useful in the treatment of beverages that are fermentation products and most preferably wine.

In particular, the invention provides a method for modifying the flavor of a fermented beverage, including wine, comprising the step of fermenting said beverage in the presence of a microorganism transformed or transfected with an expression construct comprising a LOX polynucleotide according to the invention. Preferred microorganisms include those selected from the group consisting of yeast and bacteria.

Cloning of the *Vitis* gene encoding lipoxygenase enables the heterologous production of pure lipoxygenase enzyme in a protein expression vector. Production of sufficient quantities of enzyme allows analysis of its effect on flavor production in wine and grape juice. In addition, the cloned gene enables study of the native level of gene expression in response to environmental or viticultural influences. Further, the cloned gene can be used to produce transgenic plants to modify the level of gene expression to produce optimal levels of lipoxygenase in the grape.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The present invention provides purified and isolated polypeptides and underlying polynucleotides for a novel family of lipoxygenase proteins from *Vitis vinifera*. The invention includes both naturally occurring and non-naturally occurring *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polynucleotides and polypeptide products thereof. Naturally occurring *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase products include distinct gene and polypeptide species within the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase family, including, for example, allelic variants, which are expressed within cells of grape. The invention further provides splice variants encoded by the same polynucleotide but which arise from distinct mRNA transcripts. Non-naturally occurring *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase products include variants of the naturally occurring products such as analogs, fragments, fusion (or chimeric) proteins, and *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase products having covalent modifications.

In a preferred embodiment, the invention provides polynucleotides comprising the sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4. The invention also embraces polynucleotides encoding the amino acid sequences set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 as well as polynucleotides encoding mature polypeptides, wherein signal and/or leader sequences are removed from the polypeptides as set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3. Presently preferred polypeptides of the invention comprise the amino acid sequences set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3

The invention also provides expression constructs (or vectors) comprising polynucleotides of the invention, as well as host cells transformed, transfected, or electroporated to include a polynucleotide or expression construct of the invention. Methods to produce a polypeptide of the invention are also comprehended. The invention further provides antibodies, preferably monoclonal antibodies, which are specifically immunoreactive with a polypeptide of the invention. Also provided are cell lines, (e.g., hybridomas), that secrete the antibodies.

The present invention provides novel purified and isolated polynucleotides (e.g., DNA sequences and RNA transcripts, both sense and

complementary antisense strands, including splice variants thereof) encoding the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenases. DNA sequences of the invention include genomic and cDNA sequences as well as wholly or partially chemically synthesized DNA sequences. Genomic DNA of the invention comprises the protein-coding region for a polypeptide of the invention and includes allelic variants of the preferred polynucleotides of the invention. Genomic DNA of the invention is distinguishable from genomic DNAs encoding polypeptides other than *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase in that it includes the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding region found in *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase cDNA of the invention.

Genomic DNA of the invention can be transcribed into RNA, and the resulting RNA transcript may undergo one or more splicing events wherein one or more introns (i.e., non-coding regions) of the transcript are removed, or "spliced out." RNA transcripts that can be spliced by alternative mechanisms, and therefore be subjected to removal of different non-coding RNA sequences but still encode a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide, are referred to in the art as splice variants, which are embraced by the invention. Splice variants comprehended by the invention, therefore, are encoded by the same DNA sequences but arise from distinct mRNA transcripts. Allelic variants are known in the art to be modified forms of a wild type (predominant) gene sequence, the modification resulting from recombination during chromosomal segregation or exposure to conditions which give rise to genetic mutation. Allelic variants, like wild type genes, are inherently naturally occurring sequences (as opposed to non-naturally occurring variants that arise from in vitro manipulation).

The invention also comprehends cDNA that is obtained through reverse transcription of an RNA polynucleotide encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase, followed by second strand synthesis of a complementary strand to provide a double stranded DNA.

"Chemically synthesized" as used herein and understood in the art, refers to polynucleotides produced by purely chemical, as opposed to enzymatic, methods. "Wholly" synthesized DNA sequences are therefore produced entirely by chemical means, and "partially" synthesized DNAs embrace those wherein only

portions of the resulting DNA were produced by chemical means.

Preferred DNA sequences encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides are set out in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4. The worker of skill in the art will readily appreciate that preferred DNAs of the invention comprise double stranded molecules, for example, the molecule having the sequence set forth in either SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 along with the complementary molecule (the "non-coding strand" or "complement") having a sequence deducible from the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4 according to Watson-Crick base pairing rules for DNA. Also preferred are polynucleotides encoding the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 and polynucleotides that hybridize thereto.

The invention further embraces homologs of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase DNA. Species homologs, also known in the art as orthologs, in general, share at least 70%, at least 75%, at least 80%, at least 85%, at least 90%, at least 95%, at least 98%, or at least 99% homology with *Vitis vinifera* DNA of the invention. Percent sequence "homology" with respect to polynucleotides of the invention is defined herein as the percentage of nucleotide bases in the candidate sequence that are identical to nucleotides in the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding sequence after aligning the sequences and introducing gaps, if necessary, to achieve the maximum percent sequence identity.

The polynucleotide sequence information provided by the invention makes possible large-scale expression of the encoded polypeptide by techniques well known and routinely practiced in the art. Polynucleotides also permit identification and isolation of polynucleotides encoding related *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides by well known techniques including Southern and/or Northern hybridization, and polymerase chain reaction (PCR), ligase chain reaction, as well as other amplification techniques. Examples of related polynucleotides include genomic sequences, including allelic variants, as well as polynucleotides encoding polypeptides homologous to *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenases and structurally related polypeptides sharing one or more biological, immunological, and/or physical properties of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase.

The disclosure of polynucleotides encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase polypeptides makes readily available to the worker of ordinary skill in the art every possible fragment of those polynucleotides. The invention therefore provides fragments of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase coding polynucleotides. Such

5 fragments comprise at least 10 to 20, and preferably at least 15, consecutive nucleotides of the polynucleotide. The invention comprehends, however, fragments of various lengths. Preferably, fragment polynucleotides of the invention comprise sequences unique to the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase coding polynucleotide sequence, and therefore hybridize under highly stringent or moderately stringent conditions

10 only (i.e., "specifically") to polynucleotides encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase, or *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase fragments thereof containing the unique sequence. Polynucleotide fragments of genomic sequences of the invention comprise not only sequences unique to the coding region, but also include fragments of the full length sequence derived from introns, regulatory regions, and/or other non-translated

15 sequences. Sequences unique to polynucleotides of the invention are recognizable through sequence comparison to other known polynucleotides, and can be identified through use of alignment programs routinely utilized in the art, e.g., those made available in public sequence databases.

The invention also provides fragment polynucleotides that are

20 conserved in one or more polynucleotides encoding members of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase family of polypeptides. Such fragments include sequences characteristic of the family of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase polynucleotides, and are referred to as "signature sequences." The conserved signature sequences are readily discernable following simple sequence comparison of polynucleotides encoding

25 members of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase family. Fragments of the invention can be labeled in a manner that permits their detection, including radioactive and non-radioactive labeling.

Fragment polynucleotides are particularly useful as probes for

30 detection of full length or other fragments of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase coding polynucleotides. One or more fragment polynucleotides can be included in kits that are used to detect the presence of a polynucleotide encoding *Vitis vinifera*

lipoxygenase, or used to detect variations in a polynucleotide sequence encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase.

5 The invention also embraces DNA sequences encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase species which hybridize under moderately or highly stringent conditions to the non-coding strand, or complement, of the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides which would hybridize thereto but for the redundancy of the genetic code are further comprehended by the invention. The invention also provides polynucleotides that hybridize under moderate to high stringency conditions to polynucleotides encoding 10 the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3. Exemplary highly stringent conditions include hybridization at 45°C in 5X SSPE and 45% formamide, and a final wash at 65°C in 0.1X SSC. Exemplary moderately stringent conditions include a final wash at 55°C in 1X SSC. It is understood in the art that conditions of equivalent stringency can be achieved through variation of 15 temperature and buffer, or salt concentration as described Ausubel, et al. (Eds.), Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons (1994), pp. 6.0.3 to 6.4.10. Modifications in hybridization conditions can be empirically determined or precisely calculated based on the length and the percentage of guanine/cytosine (GC) base pairing of the probe. The hybridization conditions can be calculated as described in 20 Sambrook, et al., (Eds.), Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press: Cold Spring Harbor, New York (1989), pp. 9.47 to 9.51.

 Autonomously replicating recombinant expression constructs such as plasmid and viral DNA vectors incorporating *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding sequences are also provided. Expression constructs wherein *Vitis vinifera* 25 lipoxygenase-encoding polynucleotides are operably linked to an endogenous or exogenous expression control DNA sequence and a transcription terminator are also provided. Expression control DNA sequences include promoters, enhancers, and operators, and are generally selected based on the expression systems in which the expression construct is to be utilized. Preferred promoter and enhancer sequences 30 are generally selected for the ability to increase gene expression. More specifically, tissue-specific promoter sequences such as those which direct expression of the

LOX DNA in the *Vitis vinifera* fruit (the grape) may be particularly preferred for use with the invention. Operator sequences are generally selected for the ability to regulate gene expression. Expression constructs of the invention may also include sequences encoding one or more selectable markers that permit identification of host cells bearing the construct. Expression constructs may also include sequences that facilitate, and preferably promote, homologous recombination in a host cell. Preferred constructs of the invention also include sequences necessary for replication in a host cell. Expression constructs are preferably utilized for production of an encoded *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase protein, but may also be utilized to amplify the construct itself.

According to another aspect of the invention, host cells are provided, including prokaryotic and eukaryotic, including plant cells, comprising a polynucleotide of the invention in a manner that permits expression of the encoded *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide. Suitable host cells for transformation with the *Vitis vinifera* LOX genes of the invention include plants, including but not limited to, *Vitis vinifera* as well as bacteria, yeasts and other fungi which can be used in wine fermentation processes. Polynucleotides of the invention may be introduced into the host cell as part of a circular plasmid, or as linear DNA comprising an isolated protein coding region or a viral vector. Methods for introducing DNA into the host cell that are well known and routinely practiced in the art include transformation, transfection, electroporation, nuclear injection, transformation by *Agrobacterium* infection, or by transformation of pollen or fusion with carriers such as liposomes, micelles, ghost cells, and protoplasts. Expression systems of the invention include systems such as bacterial, yeast, fungal, plant, insect, invertebrate, and mammalian cells systems. Host cells of the invention are a valuable source of immunogen for development of antibodies specifically immunoreactive with *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase.

Various transformation methods useful for practice of the invention include those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,051,409, which are hereby incorporated by reference. Such methods used for transfer of DNA into plant cells include, for example, direct DNA uptake, *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* infection,

liposomes, electroporation, micro-injection and microprojectiles. See for example, Bilang, et al., Gene 100: 247-250 (1991); Scheid et al., Mol. Gen. Genet. 228: 104-112 (1991); Guerche et al., Plant Science 52:111-116 (1987); Neuhauser et al., Theor. Appl. Genet. 75: 30-36 (1987); Klein et al., Nature 327:70-73 (1987);
5 Howell et al., Science 208: 1265 (1980); Horsch et al., Science 227:122901231 (1985); DeBlock et al., Plant Physiology 91:694-701 (1989); Methods for Plant Molecular Biology (Weissbach and Weissbach, eds.) Academic Press Inc. (1988); and Methods in Plant Molecular Biology (Schuler and Zielinski eds.) Academic Press Inc. (1989). See also Goldman et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,020,539 and Sanford
10 U.S. Patent Nos. 4,945,050; 5,036,006 and 5,100,792 the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference. See also Baribault et al., Plant Cell Reports 8:137 (1989) which discloses the transformation of *Vitis vinifera* with foreign DNA.

Host cells of the invention are also useful in methods for large scale production of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides wherein the cells are grown
15 in a suitable culture medium and the desired polypeptide products are isolated from the cells or from the medium in which the cells are grown by purification methods known in the art, e.g., conventional chromatographic methods including immunoaffinity chromatography, receptor affinity chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, lectin affinity chromatography, size exclusion
20 filtration, cation or anion exchange chromatography, high pressure liquid chromatography (HPLC), reverse phase HPLC and the like. Still other methods of purification include those wherein the desired protein is expressed and purified as a fusion protein having a specific tag, label, or chelating moiety that is recognized by a specific binding partner or agent. The purified protein can be cleaved to yield the
25 desired protein, or be left as an intact fusion protein. Cleavage of the fusion component may produce a form of the desired protein having additional amino acid residues, resulting from the cleavage process.

Knowledge of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding DNA sequences allows for modification of cells to permit, increase or decrease, expression of
30 endogenous *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase. Such knowledge also permits modification of timing and tissue specificity of LOX expression. Cells can be modified (e.g., by

homologous recombination) to provide increased *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase expression by replacing, in whole or in part, the naturally occurring *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase promoter with all or part of a heterologous promoter so that the cells express *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase at higher levels. The heterologous promoter is inserted in such a manner that it is operably linked to *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase-encoding sequences. See, for example, PCT International Publication No. WO 94/12650, PCT International Publication No. WO 92/20808, and PCT International Publication No. WO 91/09955. It is also contemplated that, in addition to heterologous promoter DNA, amplifiable marker DNA (e.g., *ada*, *dhfr*, and the multifunctional CAD gene which encodes carbamyl phosphate synthase, aspartate transcarbamylase, and dihydroorotase) and/or intron DNA may be inserted along with the heterologous promoter DNA. If linked to the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding sequence, amplification of the marker DNA by standard selection methods results in co-amplification of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase coding sequences in the cells.

The DNA sequence information provided by the present invention also makes possible the development through, e.g. homologous recombination or "knock-out" strategies [Capecchi, Science 244:1288-1292 (1989)], of grapes that fail to express functional lipoxygenase or that express a variant of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase. Such plants are useful as models for studying the in vivo activities of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase and modulators of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase.

The invention also provides purified and isolated *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide of the invention. Presently preferred are *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides comprising the amino acid sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3, as well as mature *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides wherein signal and/or leader sequences are removed from the polypeptides of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3. The invention also embraces *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides encoded by a DNA selected from the group consisting of: a) the DNA sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4; b) a DNA molecule which hybridizes under high stringent conditions to the noncoding strand of the protein coding portion of (a); and c) a

DNA molecule that would hybridize to the DNA of (a) but for the degeneracy of the genetic code. The invention further provides *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides encoded by a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of: a) the polynucleotide set out in SEQ ID NO: 2 or SEQ ID NO: 4; b) a polynucleotide
5 encoding a polypeptide set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3; and c) a polynucleotide that hybridizes to the polynucleotide of (a) or (b) under highly or moderately stringent conditions.

The invention also embraces variant (or analog) *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. It is contemplated that such variant *Vitis vinifera* LOX
10 polypeptides will be characterized by variant and potentially improved lipoxygenase activities and will be useful in modifying the sensory character of food and beverage products with which they are reacted. The invention further provides methods by which the affects of *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides on the production of flavor compounds and precursors is determined. Specifically, a method is provided by
15 which the effects of oxidation of linoleic, linolenic and other organic acids by the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides of the invention and their variants to produce C9 and C13 hydroperoxides and other products are determined to evaluate the effects on enzymatic activity resulting from structural variation of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. The invention also provides for methods in
20 which the effects of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide structural variants on the sensory character of food and beverage products are determined.

Variants according to the invention include insertion variants wherein one or more amino acid residues supplement a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase amino acid sequence. Insertions may be located at either or both termini of the protein, or
25 may be positioned within internal regions of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase amino acid sequence. Insertional variants with additional residues at either or both termini can include for example, fusion proteins and proteins including amino acid tags or labels.

In another aspect, the invention provides deletion variants wherein
30 one or more amino acid residues in a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide are removed. Deletions can be effected at one or both termini of the *Vitis vinifera*

lipoxygenase polypeptide, or with removal of one or more residues within the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase amino acid sequence. Deletion variants, therefore, include all fragments and truncations of a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide.

In still another aspect, the invention provides substitution variants of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. Substitution variants include those polypeptides wherein one or more amino acid residues of a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide are removed and replaced with alternative residues. In one aspect, the substitutions are conservative in nature, however the invention embraces substitutions that are also non-conservative. Conservative substitutions for this purpose may be defined as set out in Tables 1, 2 or 3 below.

The invention also provides derivatives of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. Derivatives include *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides bearing modifications other than insertion, deletion, or substitution of amino acid residues. Preferably, the modifications are covalent in nature, and include, for example, chemical bonding with polymers, lipids, non-naturally occurring amino acids, other organic and inorganic moieties. Derivatives of the invention may be prepared to increase circulating half-life of a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide, or may be designed to improve targeting capacity for the polypeptide to desired cells, tissues, or organs.

The invention also embraces polypeptides have at least 99%, at least 95%, at least 90%, at least 85%, at least 80%, at least 75% or at least 70% identity and/or homology to the preferred polypeptide of the invention. Percent amino acid sequence "identity" with respect to the preferred polypeptide of the invention is defined herein as the percentage of amino acid residues in the candidate sequence that are identical with the residues in the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase sequence after aligning both sequences and introducing gaps, if necessary, to achieve the maximum percent sequence identity, and not considering any conservative substitutions as part of the sequence identity. Percent sequence "homology" with respect to the preferred polypeptide of the invention is defined herein as the percentage of amino acid residues in the candidate sequence that are identical with the residues in the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase sequence after aligning the sequences and introducing

gaps, if necessary, to achieve the maximum percent sequence identity, and also considering any conservative substitutions as part of the sequence identity.

In one aspect, percent homology is calculated as the percentage of amino acid residues in the smaller of two sequences which align with identical amino acid residue in the sequence being compared, when four gaps in a length of 100 amino acids may be introduced to maximize alignment [Dayhoff, in Atlas of Protein Sequence and Structure, Vol. 5, p. 124, National Biochemical Research Foundation, Washington, D.C. (1972), incorporated herein by reference].

Polypeptides of the invention may be isolated from natural cell sources or may be chemically synthesized, but are preferably produced by recombinant procedures involving host cells of the invention.

Insertion variants include *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase polypeptides wherein one or more amino acid residues are added to a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase acid sequence, or fragment thereof. Variant products of the invention also include mature *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase products, i.e., *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase products wherein leader or signal sequences are removed, with additional amino terminal residues. The additional amino terminal residues may be derived from another protein, or may include one or more residues that are not identifiable as being derived from a specific proteins. *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase products with an additional methionine residue at position -1 (Met-1-lipoxigenase) are contemplated, as are *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase products with additional methionine and lysine residues at positions -2 and -1 (Met-2-Lys-1-lipoxigenase). Variants of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase with multiple, additional Met, Met-Lys, Lys residues are particularly useful for enhanced recombinant protein production in bacterial host cell.

The invention also embraces *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase variants having additional amino acid residues which result from use of specific expression systems. For example, use of commercially available vectors that express a desired polypeptide as part of glutathione-S-transferase (GST) fusion product provides the desired polypeptide having an additional glycine residue at position -1 after cleavage of the GST component from the desired polypeptide. Variants which result from

expression in other vector systems are also contemplated.

Insertional variants also include fusion proteins wherein the amino and/or carboxy termini of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide is fused to another polypeptide. Examples of such fusion proteins are those in which transit peptides, marker proteins (e.g., fluorescent) and proteins or polypeptide that facilitate isolation, transport or purification of the desired *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide, e.g. FLAG® tags or polyhistidine sequences.

Deletion variants include *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides wherein one or more amino acid residues are deleted from the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase amino acid sequence. Deletion variants of the invention embrace polypeptide fragments of the sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 wherein the fragments maintain biological or immunological properties of a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide. Fragments comprising at least 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, or 40 consecutive amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1 or SEQ ID NO: 3 are comprehended by the invention. Preferred polypeptide fragments display antigenic properties unique to or specific for the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase family of polypeptides. Fragments of the invention having the desired biological and immunological properties can be prepared by any of the methods well known and routinely practiced in the art.

Substitution variants of the invention include *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides, or fragments thereof, wherein one or more amino acid residues in the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase amino acid sequence are deleted and replaced with another amino acid residue. Variant polypeptides include those wherein conservative substitutions have been introduced by modification of polynucleotides encoding polypeptides of the invention. Amino acids can be classified according to physical properties and contribution to secondary and tertiary protein structure. A conservative substitution is recognized in the art as a substitution of one amino acid for another amino acid that has similar properties. Exemplary conservative substitutions are set out in Table 1 (from WO 97/09433, page 10, published March 13, 1997 (PCT/GB96/02197, filed 9/6/96), immediately below.

Table 1
Conservative Substitutions I

	SIDE CHAIN CHARACTERISTIC		AMINO ACID
5	Aliphatic	Non-polar	G A P
			ILV
	Polar - uncharged		CSTM
			N Q
	Polar - charged		D E
10			K R
	Aromatic		H F W Y
	Other		N Q D E

Alternatively, conservative amino acids can be grouped as described in Lehninger,
15 [Biochemistry, Second Edition; Worth Publishers, Inc. NY:NY (1975), pp.71-77]
as set out in Table 2, immediately below.

Table 2
Conservative Substitutions II

	SIDE CHAIN	
5	CHARACTERISTIC	AMINO ACID
	Non-polar (hydrophobic)	
	A. Aliphatic:	A L I V P
	B. Aromatic:	F W
10	C. Sulfur-containing:	M
	D. Borderline:	G
	Uncharged-polar	
	A. Hydroxyl:	S T Y
	B. Amides:	N Q
15	C. Sulfhydryl:	C
	D. Borderline:	G
	Positively Charged (Basic):	K R H
	Negatively Charged (Acidic):	D E

20 As still an another alternative, exemplary conservative substitutions are set out in Table 3, below.

Table 3
Conservative Substitutions III

	Original Residue	Exemplary Substitution
5	Ala (A)	Val, Leu Ile
	Arg (R)	Lys, Gln, Asn
	Asn (N)	Gln, His, Lys, Arg
	Asp (D)	Glu
	Cys (C)	Ser
10	Gln (Q)	Asn
	Glu (E)	Asp
	His (H)	Asn, Gln, Lys, Arg
	Ile (I)	Leu, Val, Met, Ala, Phe,
	Leu (L)	Ile, Val, Met, Ala, Phe
15	Lys (K)	Arg, Gln, Asn
	Met (M)	Leu, Phe, Ile
	Phe (F)	Leu, Val, Ile, Ala
	Pro (P)	Gly
	Ser (S)	Thr
20	Thr (T)	Ser
	Trp (W)	Tyr
	Tyr (Y)	Trp, Phe, Thr, Ser
	Val (V)	Ile, Leu, Met, Phe, Ala

25 The invention also provides methods for modifying the flavor of foods and beverages (comestibles) by using the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides of the invention to oxidize fatty acid substrates such as linoleic and linolenic acids to produce C9 and C13 hydroperoxides. The resulting hydroperoxides are then converted by other enzymes to produce C6, C9 and C12

compounds with characteristic flavors and aromas including 3Z-hexenal, 3E-hexenal, 2E-hexenal, 3Z-hexenol, 3E-hexenol, 2E-hexenol, n-hexanal, n-hexenol, 3Z=6Z-nonadienal, 2E-6Z-nonadienal, 3Z-6Z-nonadienol, 2E-6Z-nonadienol, 9-oxo-nonanoic acid, 3Z-nonenal, 2E-nonenal, 3Z-nonenol, 2E-nonenol, 12-oxo-9Z-dodecenoic acid and 12-ox-10E-dodecenoic acid. The use of the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide of the invention and of pure variants is contemplated to provide the food scientist with the ability to more specifically control the oxidation of linoleic and linolenic acids and thereby to control the quantity and identity of flavor compounds present in particular food and beverage products. Specifically, the invention provides for methods in which the flavor of a comestible product is modified by contacting the comestible with a quantity of purified and isolated *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide under conditions selected to modify the flavor characteristics of the comestible. In particular, the purified LOX enzyme is expected to catalyze the conversion of fatty acid substrates such as linoleic and linolenic acids to produce products wherein hydroperoxide and other products having characteristic flavors. Moreover, the products of the LOX enzyme activity may be further modified by other reactions to produce other flavor compounds. Preferred comestibles for practice of this aspect of the invention are beverages, with fermented beverages being particularly preferred. Beverages comprising or produced from fruit juices including grape juice are a particularly preferred substrate for practice of this aspect of the invention. According to one particular aspect of the invention the fermentation products of grape and other juices (wine) may have their flavor characteristics modified by contacting with a purified and isolated *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptide according to the invention.

While one aspect of the invention contemplates the direct admixture of the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides of the invention with comestibles, an alternative aspect of the invention recognizes that the flavors of food and beverages can be modified by fermentation in the presence of a microorganism transformed or transfected with polynucleotides expressing the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides of the invention. Such methods are particularly useful in the fermentation of alcoholic beverages such as wine where conversion of the fatty acid

substrates present in grape juice (must) is promoted by the LOX enzyme activity, but are also contemplated to be useful in other food producing processes such as those for the production of cheese, yogurt, pickles and the like which are dependent upon the action of microorganisms to provide acceptable flavor and texture to the resulting food product. Preferred microorganisms for practice of this aspect of the invention include those selected from the group consisting of yeast and bacteria. These microorganisms can be genetically transformed by techniques well known to those of skill in the art.

Also contemplated by the invention are methods in which pure flavoring compounds are produced under controlled conditions in vitro rather than in the milieu of a complex food product. According to such methods, selected substrates can be converted using the LOX activity of the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides of the invention to produce purified C9 and C13 hydroperoxides or other reaction products. Those reaction products can then be isolated and used as food ingredients or alternatively, can be converted by other reaction methods to yield purified flavoring compounds for addition to food and beverage products.

As discussed above, one way in which the invention is practiced to modify the flavor of foods involves genetic modification of the basic agricultural product from which the food is produced. Thus, expression of the purified *Vitis vinifera* LOX polypeptides of the invention at levels other than those naturally present in the fruit of the grape plant will modify the flavor characteristic of the resulting grapes by conversion of the fatty acid substrates within the grape.

The present invention also provides antibodies (e.g., monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies, single chain antibodies, chimeric antibodies, bifunctional/bispecific antibodies, and CDR-grafted antibodies, including compounds which include CDR sequences which specifically recognize a polypeptide of the invention) and other binding proteins specific for *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase products or fragments thereof. Antibody fragments, including Fab, Fab', F(ab')₂, and F_v, are also provided by the invention. The term "specific for" indicates that the variable regions of the antibodies of the invention recognize and bind *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase polypeptides exclusively (i.e., able to distinguish

single *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides from the family of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides despite sequence identity, homology, or similarity found in the family of polypeptides), but may also interact with other proteins (for example, *S. aureus* protein A or other antibodies in ELISA techniques) through interactions with sequences outside the variable region of the antibodies, and in particular, in the constant region of the molecule. Screening assays to determine binding specificity of an antibody of the invention are well known and routinely practiced in the art. For a comprehensive discussion of such assays, see Harlow et al. (Eds), Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual; Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory; Cold Spring Harbor, NY (1988), Chapter 6. Antibodies that recognize and bind fragments of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides of the invention are also contemplated, provided that the antibodies are first and foremost specific for, as defined above, *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. As with antibodies that are specific for full length *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides, antibodies of the invention that recognize *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase fragments are those which can distinguish single and distinct *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides from the family of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides despite inherent sequence identity, homology, or similarity found in the family of proteins. Antibodies of the invention can be produced using any method well known and routinely practiced in the art.

Antibodies of the invention are useful for diagnostic purposes to detect or quantitate *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase present in fermentation media as well as in agricultural products such as grapes, as well as purification of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase. Antibodies are particularly useful for detecting and/or quantitating *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase expression in cells, tissues, organs and lysates and extracts thereof, as well as fluids, including grape juice, wine must and wine (collectively "wine"). Kits comprising an antibody of the invention for any of the purposes described herein are also comprehended. In general, a kit of the invention, with or without a container, also includes a control antigen for which the antibody is immunospecific.

The DNA and amino acid sequence information provided by the present invention also makes possible the systematic analysis of the structure and function of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenases. DNA and amino acid sequence information for *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase also permits identification of binding partner compounds with which a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide or polynucleotide will interact. Agents that modulate (i.e., increase, decrease, or block) *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity or expression may be identified by incubating a putative modulator with a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide or polynucleotide and determining the effect of the putative modulator on *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity or expression. The selectivity of a compound that modulates the activity of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase can be evaluated by comparing its binding activity to one particular *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase to its activity to other *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides. Cell based methods, such as di-hybrid assays to identify DNAs encoding binding compounds and split hybrid assays to identify inhibitors of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide interaction with a known binding polypeptide, as well as in vitro methods, including assays wherein a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide, *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polynucleotide, or a binding partner are immobilized, and solution assays are contemplated by the invention.

Selective modulators may include, for example, antibodies and other proteins or peptides which specifically bind to a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide or a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase-encoding nucleic acid, oligonucleotides which specifically bind to a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide or a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase gene sequence, and other non-peptide compounds (e.g., isolated or synthetic organic and inorganic molecules) which specifically react with a *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide or its underlying nucleic acid. Mutant *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides which affect the enzymatic activity or cellular localization of the wild-type *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptides are also contemplated by the invention. Presently preferred targets for the development of selective modulators include, for example: (1) regions of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide which contact other proteins, (2) regions that localize the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide within a cell, (3) regions of the *Vitis vinifera*

lipoxygenase polypeptide which bind substrate, (4) allosteric regulatory binding site(s) of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide, (5) site(s) of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide wherein covalent modification regulates biological activity and (6) regions of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase polypeptide which are or could be altered to be involved in multimerization of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase subunits. Still other selective modulators include those that recognize specific *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase encoding and regulatory polynucleotide sequences. Modulators of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity may be therapeutically useful in treatment of a wide range of diseases and physiological conditions in which *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity is known or suspected to be involved.

The invention also provides methods to modulate binding between *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase and a binding partner thereof, said method comprising the step of contacting *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase or the binding partner with a modulator of binding between *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase and the binding partner. Still other selective modulators include those that recognize specific *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase encoding and regulatory polynucleotide sequences. Modulators of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity may be therapeutically useful in treatment of a wide range of diseases and physiological conditions in which *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase activity is known or suspected to be involved.

The invention also provides methods to modulate binding between *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase and a binding partner thereof, said method comprising the step of contacting *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase or the binding partner with a modulator of binding between *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase and the binding partner. The methods may result in increased binding when the modulator is an enhancer of binding, or may result in decreased binding when the modulator is an inhibitor of binding.

Also made available by the invention are antisense polynucleotides which recognize and hybridize to polynucleotides encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase. Full length and fragment antisense polynucleotides are provided.

The worker of ordinary skill will appreciate that fragment antisense molecules of the invention include (i) those which specifically recognize and hybridize to *Vitis*

vinifera lipoxygenase RNA (as determined by sequence comparison of DNA encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase to DNA encoding other known molecules) as well as (ii) those which recognize and hybridize to RNA encoding variants of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase family of proteins. Antisense polynucleotides that hybridize to RNA encoding other members of the lipoxygenase family of proteins are also identifiable through sequence comparison to identify characteristic, or signature, sequences for the family of molecules. Antisense polynucleotides are particularly relevant to regulating expression of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase by those cells expressing *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase mRNA.

Antisense nucleic acids (preferably 10 to 20 base pair oligonucleotides) capable of specifically binding to *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase expression-control-sequences or *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase RNA are introduced into cells (e.g., by a viral vector or colloidal dispersion system such as a liposome). The antisense nucleic acid binds to the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase target nucleotide sequence in the cell and prevents transcription or translation of the target sequence. Phosphorothioate and methylphosphonate antisense oligonucleotides are specifically contemplated for therapeutic use by the invention. The antisense oligonucleotides may be further modified by poly-L-lysine, transferrin polylysine, or cholesterol moieties at their 5' ends.

The invention further contemplates methods to modulate *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase expression through use of ribozymes. For a review, see Gibson and Shillito, Mol. Biotech. 7:125-137 (1997). Ribozyme technology can be utilized to inhibit translation of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxygenase mRNA in a sequence specific manner through (i) the hybridization of a complementary RNA to a target mRNA and (ii) cleavage of the hybridized mRNA through nuclease activity inherent to the complementary strand. Ribozymes can be identified by empirical methods but more preferably are specifically designed based on accessible sites on the target mRNA (Bramlage, et al., Trends in Biotech 16:434-438 (1998). Delivery of ribozymes to target cells can be accomplished using either exogenous or endogenous delivery techniques well known and routinely practiced in the art. Exogenous delivery methods can include use of targeting liposomes or direct local injection.

Endogenous methods include use of viral vectors and non-viral plasmids.

Ribozymes can specifically modulate expression of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase when designed to be complementary to regions unique to a polynucleotide encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase. "Specifically modulate" therefore is intended to mean that ribozymes of the invention recognize only a polynucleotide encoding *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase. Similarly, ribozymes can be designed to modulate expression of all or some of the *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase family of proteins. Ribozymes of this type are designed to recognize polynucleotide sequences conserved in all or some of the polynucleotides which encode the family of proteins.

The invention further embraces methods to modulate transcription of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase through use of oligonucleotide-directed triplet helix formation. For a review, see Lavrovsky, et al., Biochem. Mol. Med. 62:11-22 (1997). Triplet helix formation is accomplished using sequence specific oligonucleotides which hybridize to double stranded DNA in the major groove as defined in the Watson-Crick model. Hybridization of a sequence specific oligonucleotide can thereafter modulate activity of DNA-binding proteins, including, for example, transcription factors and polymerases. Preferred target sequences for hybridization include promoter and enhancer regions to permit transcriptional regulation of *Vitis vinifera* lipoxigenase expression.

Oligonucleotides which are capable of triplet helix formation are also useful for site-specific covalent modification of target DNA sequences. Oligonucleotides useful for covalent modification are coupled to various DNA damaging agents as described in Lavrovsky, et al. [supra].

The present invention is illustrated by the following examples. Example 1 describes isolation of DNA primer sequences coding for lipoxigenase from *Vitis vinifera*. Example 2 relates to isolation of a DNA sequence coding for lipoxigenase from a *Vitis vinifera* cv. Cabernet Sauvignon stem cDNA library. Example 3 relates to the generation of a complete LOX DNA genomic sequences derived from a *Vitis Vinifera* Cabernet Sauvignon genomic library constructed using a Bacterial Artificial Chromosome vector.

EXAMPLE 1

According to this example, the candidate gene approach was used to isolate the DNA sequence coding for lipoxygenase from *Vitis vinifera*. This approach took advantage of the highly conserved nature of catalytic sites in lipoxygenase genes that have been cloned and sequenced from other plants. (See Table 4 below)

TABLE 4

Gene Name	Plant Source	Genbank Accession
Lipoxygenase-7	<i>Glycine Max</i>	U36191
Lipoxygenase-2	<i>Glycine Max</i>	J03211
Lipoxygenase-5	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	AF039651
Lipoxygenase	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i>	U24232
Lipoxygenase	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	L37358
Lipoxygenase	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	L37359
Lipoxygenase-2	<i>Glycine max</i>	D13949
Lipoxygenase	<i>Glycine max</i>	X56139
Lipoxygenase-2	<i>Oryza sativa</i>	S37328
Lipoxygenase	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	L04637
Lipoxygenase	<i>Glycine max</i>	U26457
Lipoxygenase-3	<i>Glycine max</i>	U50081
Lipoxygenase-2	<i>Arabidopsis thaliana</i>	L23968
Lipoxygenase-1	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i>	L35931
Lipoxygenase-L-5	<i>Glycine max</i>	U50075
Lipoxygenase	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	U36339

The accessions of Table 4 were used to design the first degenerate primers. Specifically, the sequences were aligned with MegAlign4.0 from DNASTAR Inc. Sequences were aligned using the Clustal method with the PAM250 (Percent Accepted Mutation) residue weight table. A PAM(x) substitution matrix is a look-up table in which scores for each amino acid substitution have been calculated based on the frequency of that substitution in closely related proteins that have experienced a certain amount (x) of evolutionary divergence. The PAM 250 Matrix allows for a medium to strong match over a medium length of sequence, and is the default value for this program.

Degenerate primers were designed based on four highly conserved regions. Region 1 consists of amino acid residues 274-283, region 2 from residues 423-429, region 3 from residues 588-595, and region 4 from residues 780-788 wherein the numbering is based on the consensus sequence derived from the 16 analyzed sequences. The following degenerate primers were synthesized using an ABI 394 DNA synthesizer (PE Biosystems, Foster City, CA 94494) and all chemicals and methods used were according to the manufacturer's instructions. The primers are shown in Table 5 below.

TABLE 5

Printer Name	Starting Nucleotide	Primer Length	Sequence 5'-3'
LOXDG697U	5'-697	23	CCNTAYCCNMGMNGGNGMGNAC SEQ ID NO: 5
LOXDG1081U	5'-1081	23	ACNGAYGARGARTTYGCNMGNGA SEQ ID NO: 6
LOXDG1081L	3'-1081	23	TCNCKNGCRAAYTCYTCRTCNGT SEQ ID NO: 7
LOXDG1522U	5'-1522	22	WSNCAYTGGYTNAAYACNCAYG SEQ ID NO: 8
LOXDG1552L	3'-1555	22	CNGCRTGNGTRTTNARCCARTG SEQ ID NO: 9
LOXDG2128L	3'-2128	23	TGNCCRAARTTNACNGCNGCRTG SEQ ID NO: 10

10 N=A or G or C or T W=A or T Y=C or T M=A or C
 K=G or T R=A or G S=G or C

The primers were used in the combinations set out below:

- 15 1) LOXDG697U with LOXDG1081L
 2) LOXDG697U with LOXDG1552L
 3) LOXDG697U with LOXDG2128L
 4) LOXDG1081U with LOXDG1552L
 5) LOXDG1081U with LOXDG2128L
 6) LOXDG1522U with LOXDG2128L

20

PCR reactions were carried out using Amplitaq DNA polymerase from PE Applied Biosystems (Foster City, CA) following the manufacturers recommended protocol. Briefly, each reaction contained 5 uL of 10X PCR buffer,

0.25 uL of Amplitaq DNA polymerase, 1 uL of 10 mM dNTPs, 1 uL of each primer (approximately 50 uM), 5 uL of template and 36.75 uL of DDH₂O for a final volume of 50 uL. Four different cDNA libraries (*Vitis cinerea* leaf, *Vitis vinifera* cv. *Cabernet sauvignon* leaf, stem and cambium) and *Vitis vinifera* cv. *Cabernet sauvignon* genomic DNA were used as templates.

PCR was carried out using a PE Applied Biosystems 9600 Thermocycler using a 3-step PCR sequence as follows: (1) an initial denaturation step of two minutes at 95°C followed by 35 cycles of (2) denaturation for 30 seconds at 95°C, (3) hybridization for 40 seconds at an annealing temperature; and (4) primer extension for two minutes at 72°C. The amplification product was (5) held for ten minutes at 72°C and then (6) held at 4°C.

Initial annealing temperatures were 45°C, 50°C, 55°C and 60°C. In the initial experiments, multiple bands were seen at 45°C with primer combinations 2 and 6 with all samples. No amplification was seen with other primer combinations. Similar results were seen at 50°C. The only combination of temperature and primers that produced the expected size range fragment was LOX 1081U with LOX 2128L at 55°C with the *Vitis vinifera* cv. *Cabernet sauvignon* genomic DNA. The amplified fragments were cloned into TA cloning vectors, (Invitrogen Inc. Carlsbad, CA) and sequenced using an ABI 377 automated fluorescent sequencer (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA). Sequencing kits, Big Dye, (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used for all sequencing at one fourth the manufacturer's suggested volume.

Clone 10 from *Vitis vinifera* cv. *Cabernet sauvignon* genomic DNA was the only clone that had DNA sequence with homology to known lipoxygenase genes. This clone comprised LOX genomic Clone 10 forward sequencing primer having 639 nucleotides:

TACGACTCACTATAGGGCGAATTGGGCCCTCTAGATGCATGCTCGAGCGG
CCGCCAGTGTGATGGATATCTGCAGAATTCGGCTTACGGATGAGGAGTTT
GCGCGGGAATGCTGGCTGGACTCAACCCAGTTGTTCATCCGACTACTCCA
AGTAAACTACAGCTTCCTTTCAAATAATTTTAAATGCCCTGTTTGTTC
TGAGAAAATGGAACCTTGAAAGGCTTCAGACTTTGTTTCTTTCCCTCC

ATCTACTGTTCTAGCTCTTTTCTGATAATTATTGTCTTTCTATTTTGTTTG
AAGGAGTTTCCTCCAAAAAGCAAGCTGGATCCTGAAGTTTATGGCAACCAA
AACAGTTCAATAACCAAAGAACACATAGAGAATCACCTGGATGACCTTACT
ATAAACGAGGTAACGCTCTTAGGTTCCTTCTTTCAAACATAAATTTTCAA
5 TGTCGACATGTTAATTTTTTGCATTGGTACACAAGCCATAGTAACTGAAAA
ATGGTGCGTTTTACTAAGGCAATGGAGAAGAAGAGGCTATTTCATATTARAT
CACCATGATGTTTTTCATGCCATACCTGAGGAGGATAAACACAACCTCCACG
AAAACATACGCCTCAAGGACTCTCCTCTTCCT (SEQ. ID NO: 11)

10 The clone also comprised a LOX genomic Clone 10 reverse sequencing primer
having 636 nucleotides:

TCAAGCTTGGTACCGAGCTCGGATCCACTAGTAACGGCCGCCAGTGTGCT
GGAATTTCGGCTTTGGCCGAAATTGACGGCGCGTGGAGAGCAGAAGCCAC
CCAGATGATAATGGTGCATGTTTCTATCAGCTCTTTGACAGTACGCATTT
15 TAGGCCACCAAGGCTCGTCTCTTCTGTGCCCATGACCTCTTCCCTGACT
TCCTTCCACCAGGACTGAAGCTCAGAGTCTTTCTGGACCATCTCATCTGT
CTTGTAGTAGAATGAGCAATACCTTTTACCCTATGTCTCAATAGCTGACC
AGATCTCAAGTCCATCAACAGCATAGGGGTAGTCATCTATCAGTAGGCGG
AGTCCATGAGGGGCCCTCTGAATCCTCAACCGCCATTCTCTGAAAAGAGTG
20 CCCAAGTTGGAGCATATCAGTTAGATGAAAATCACAATTTTCTACTAGATT
CATTGCACAGCAGGAAAGAAAACAATCACTAACAGTATTTATATACCTCT
TGATGAGATCAGCAGGAAGTGCTTGCTCAGTGAGAACCCAGTCTTTGTAA
ACAACAGATGACATTTCCATGGCATACTTTGATGGAAAACTGTGCTCTC
CACCCTCCACCAGCATTGATGAGGATTTGTGCGAGC (SEQ ID NO: 12)

25

The two sequences do not overlap, as the original amplification product was
approximately 1500 nucleotides.

EXAMPLE 2

30

LOX primers were designed based on the *Vitis vinifera* cv. Cabernet
Sauvignon DNA sequence of Example 1. These primers should amplify a LOX
gene in *Vitis* sp. genomic DNA. The primary goal was to link the two segments of

DNA sequence and obtain a contiguous *Vitis* LOX genomic sequence spanning 1200-1500 nucleotides. In addition it was intended to extend the sequence in the 3' and 5' directions.

Primers were designed based upon the genomic DNA sequence and are listed in Table 6 below:

TABLE 6

Printer Name	Starting Nucleotide	Primer Length	Sequence 5'-3'
LOX1 ExtL	3'-315	23	TTC AGG ATC CAG CTT GCT TTT TG (SEQ ID NO: 13)
LOX2 IntL	3'-600	23	TGA GGC GTA TGT TTT CGT GGA AG (SEQ ID NO: 14)
LOX2 ExtU	5'-594	23	ACA CAA CTT CCA CGA AAA CAT AC (SEQ ID NO:15)
LOX3 IntU	5'-649	23	ATC CTC ATC AAT GCT GGT GGA GT (SEQ ID NO: 16)
LOX1 IntU	5'-315	23	CAA AAA GCA AGC TGG ATC CTG AA (SEQ ID NO:17)
LOX3 ExtL	3'-669	20	AAA CTG TGC TCT CCA CCA CT (SEQ ID NO: 18)
LOX4 ExtU	5'-1090	23	GTC ATG GCG ACA AGA AGG ACG AG (SEQ ID NO: 19)
LOX4 IntL	3'-1092	20	TCG TCC TTC TTG TCG CCA TG (SEQ ID NO: 20)

Initial PCR experiments were conducted with a 55°C annealing temperature and the same templates and thermocycler program as used in Example 1 above using the primers in the following combinations:

- 1) LOX1 IntU with LOX2 IntL

- 2) LOX1 IntU with LOX3 ExtL
- 3) LOX1 IntU with LOX4 IntL
- 4) LOX1 ExtL with Vector TX5'
- 5) LOX2 IntL with Vector TX5'
- 6) LOX3 ExtL with Vector TX5'
- 7) LOX4 IntL with Vector TX5'
- 8) LOX2 ExtU with LOX3 ExtL
- 9) LOX2 ExtU with LOX4 IntL
- 10) LOX3 IntU with LOX4 IntL
- 11) LOX3 IntU with Vector TX3'
- 12) LOX4 ExtU with Vector TX3'

The amplification products were sequenced and analyzed. Some of the primers did not amplify any cDNAs indicating that they were probably located in intron regions of the genomic DNA. New primers were synthesized. Primer LOX 69IntU starting at nucleotide 5'-69 and having the sequence GAT GTT TTC ATG CCA TAC CTG AG (SEQ ID NO: 21) and primer LOX 1307IntL starting at nucleotide 3'-1307 and having the sequence TTG CCA GTA AGC CCA CCT T (SEQ ID NO: 22) were synthesized. The use of these primers in a PCR reaction resulted in amplification of the entire region between the primers yielding 1398 bases of continuous sequence from the *Vitis vinifera* cv. Cabernet Sauvignon stem cDNA library and having the sequence:

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TGGCATGAAACATCAAACCTACGCCTCAAGGACTCTCCTCTTCCTGAAAGA
CGACGGAACCTTTGAAGCCGCTGGCGATTGAATTGAGCCTACCATCCTA
ATGGGGATAAATTCGGAGCTGTCAACAAAGTATACACACAGCTGAAGAT
GGCGTTGAAGGTTCCATTGGCAGCTGGCTAAAGCTTATGCTGCTGTGAA
TGACTCTGGCTATCATCAGCTCCTCAGCCACTGGTTGAATACACATGCTG
CAATTGAGCCATTTGTGATTGCAACCAACAGGCAGCTCAGTGTGCTTCAC
CCAAATTCACAAGCTTTTGCATCCTCACTTCCGTGATACGATGAATATAAA
TGCATTAGCTCGACAAATCCTCATCAATGCTGGTGGAGTGGTGGAGAGCA
CAGTTTTTCCATCAAAGTATGCCATGGAATGTCTATCTGTTGTTTACAAA
GACTGGGTTCTCACTGAGCAAGCACTTCCTGCTGATCTCATCAAGAGAGG
```

AATGGCGGTTGAGGATTCAGAGGCCCTCATGGACTCCGCCTACTGATAG
 ATGACTACCCCTATGCTGTGATGGACTTGAGATCTGGTCAGCTATTGAGA
 CATGGGTGAAAGAGTATTGCTCATTCACCACAAGACAGATGAGATGGTC
 CAGAAAGACTCTGAGCTTCAGTTCTGGTGGAAGGAAGTCAGGGAAGAGGG
 5 TCATGGCGACAAGAAGGACGAGCCTTGGTGGCCTAAAATGCGTACTGTCA
 AAGAGCTGATACAAACATGCACCATTATCATCTGGGTGGCTTCTGCTCTC
 CATGCTGCAGTGAATTTGGGCGAGTACCCTTATGCAGGCTACCTCCCAA
 CCGCCCAACGATAAGCCGCAGATTATGCCTGAAGAAGGCACTCCTGAGT
 ATGAAGAACTCAAGTCCAATCCTGATAAGGCTTTCCTGAAAACAATCACT
 10 GCCCAGCTGCAGACCCTTCTTGGCATCTCCCTTATGTAGGTCCTTTCCAG
 GCATTCTTCCGATGAGGTTTATCTTGGACAGAGAGACACTCCTGAATGGA
 CCCTGGACGCAACACCATTTGAAAGCTTTTGAGAAAATTCGGAAGGAAGCTG
 GCAGACATTGAAGAGAGGATCATAGATAGAAATGGAATGAGAGATTCAA
 GAACAGAGTTGGGCTGTGAAGATACCATACACTGTTATGATGCCA
 15 (SEQ ID NO: 23)

EXAMPLE 3

According to this example, complete LOX DNA genomic sequences
 were isolated from *Vitis vinifera* by screening a *Vitis vinifera* cv. *Cabernet*
 20 *Sauvignon* genomic library constructed using the Bacterial Artificial Chromosome
 vector, pECBAC1. Briefly, high molecular weight (HMW) DNA was obtained
 using isolated nuclei embedded in agarose plugs. The HMW DNA was partially
 digested with Bam HI or Eco RI restriction endonuclease, and size-fractioned by
 pulsed- field electrophoresis. The region of the gel containing HMW DNA from
 25 150-250, 250-350, and 350-450 kb was excised, and subjected to a second selection
 using pulsed- field electrophoresis. The second size selection products were excised
 from the gel and electroeluted from the gel fragments in dialysis tubing. The HMW
 DNA fractions were then dialyzed overnight, and then ligated into pECBAC1
 vector. The ligation mix was used to transform electrocompetent *Escherichia coli*
 30 DH10B cells (ElectroMAX, Gibco BRL, Grand Island, NY) using a BioRad Gene
 Pulser II electroporator (BioRad Inc., Hercules, CA). Transformed bacteria were
 selected on Luria Broth (LB) plates containing chloramphenicol, and bacteria with

inserts detected by blue/white selection using X-gal and IPTG. The library was plated onto 20 x 20 cm bioassay trays (Genetix Ltd, Dorset, UK) and picked into 384-microwell plates using a QPIX robotic picker (Genetix Ltd., Dorset, UK). The library was arrayed onto nylon membranes using the QPIX (Genetix Ltd., Dorset, UK) gridding software package at a density of about 10,000 cDNAs/filter.

Probes derived from the sequenced *Vitis* LOX gene (SEQ ID NO: 23) and described in Example 2, were used to screen the nylon membranes. Briefly, the PCR product was isolated from an agarose gel by the band intercept method using NA 45 DEAE membranes (Schleicher and Schuell, Keene, NH). One microgram of purified insert was labeled separately for each, using the DIG High Prime DNA labeling and detection starter kit (Roche Molecular Biochemicals, Mannheim Germany). The BAC library membranes were prehybridized at 42°C for 30 min using the DIG Easy Hyb hybridization solution provided in the kit. The probe was denatured and added to 5 ml of hybridization solution. The prehybridization solution was poured off and the probe solution was added. The BAC library filters were incubated with the probe at 42°C in a VWR rotating hybridization oven overnight. The library membranes were washed and blocked according to the labeling kit protocols, with the following stringency's; 2X SSC, 0.1% SDS for 5 min at 27°C, and 0.5X SSC, 0.1% SDS for 20 min at 65°C. The membranes were exposed to Kodak BioMax double emulsion film for 4 hours before developing.

Eighteen clones were identified, isolated, and arrayed on a new membrane, and screened a second time with the LOX probe. Individual clones that tested positive the second trial were categorized as LOX containing BAC sequence. Fifteen clones were archived, and then cultured for plasmid isolation. Plasmids were isolated using the Qiagen Large-Construct Kit following manufacturers instructions (Qiagen Inc., Valencia, CA). Of these, the clone, LOX BAC D2, was modified using the Epicentre EZ::TN Transposon <KAN-2> insertion kit (Epicentre Technologies Corp., Madison, WI). Briefly, the purified clone plasmid was combined with the EZ::TN transposon and transposase enzyme, then incubated for two hours at 37°C. The reaction mixture was used to transform

electrocompetent *Escherichia coli* DH10B cells (ElectroMAX, Gibco BRL, Grand Island, NY) using a BioRad Gene Pulser II electroporator (BioRad Inc., Hercules, CA). Transformed bacteria were plated on Luria Broth (LB) plates containing kanamycin to select LOX BAC clones containing randomly inserted EZ::TN <KAN-2> transposon. Individual clones were isolated, and bidirectionally sequenced using the two primer sites on the transposon per the manufacturer's instruction. Sequencing was done using an ABI 377 automated fluorescent sequencer (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), and Big Dye sequencing kits (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used at one fourth the manufacturer's suggested volume. Sequence derived from the individual clones was matched to known sequences using the BLAST algorithm. Sequences with homology to known lipoxygenase were archived and screened for redundancy. Fifteen unique lipoxygenase sequences were identified in the first group of 96 clones sequenced. These sequences were aligned with the *Prunus dulcis* genomic DNA sequence in the public databases, to determine fragment order and alignment. Initial analysis indicated the sequences were located randomly, across a region spanning approximately 4 kb (1590-5610) of the *Prunus dulcis* LOX gene.

The following primers were designed (OLIGO 5.0 Primer Analysis Software, National BioSciences Inc., Plymouth, MN) to sequence the contiguous internal sequence, as well as adjacent external sequence; 48L, 27U, 69L, 1380L, 1361U, 117L, 97U, 1167L, 1146U, 123U, 145L, 625U, 940L, 950L, 1036U, 1697U, and 1018L. All 15 of the *Vitis* LOX containing BAC clones were used as template for sequencing reactions. Sequencing was done using an ABI 377 automated fluorescent sequencer (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), and Big Dye sequencing kits (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used at one fourth the manufacturer's suggested volume. Internal and external sequence was obtained using the initial primers. Sequence from the 5' end of the LOX gene resulted in poor quality sequence. Analysis of the data indicated the 5' sequencing primer was annealing in more than one location on the BAC template. In addition, there were heterozygous regions of DNA in the internal LOX fragment sequence. In order to avoid the problems associated with sequencing directly from the BAC

vectors, a different approach, involving cloning PCR product amplified with pairs of the sequencing primers was initiated. PCR reactions were done using Amplitaq Gold DNA polymerase (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) following the manufacturers recommended protocol. Briefly, each reaction contained 5 uL of 10X PCR buffer, 0.25 uL of Amplitaq DNA polymerase, 1 uL of 10 mM dNTPs, 1 uL of each primer (approximately 50 uM), 5 uL of template and 36.75 uL of DDH₂O for a final volume of 50 uL. PCR was carried out using a PE Applied Biosystems 9600 Thermocycler using a 3-step PCR sequence as follows: (1) an initial denaturation step of ten minutes at 95C followed by 35 cycles of (2) denaturation for 30 seconds at 95C, (3) hybridization for 40 seconds at a 50-60C (primer dependent) annealing temperature; and (4) primer extension for two minutes at 72C. The amplification product was (5) held for ten minutes at 72C and then (6) held at 4 C. The PCR products were run on 1.0% agarose gels (Molecular Biology Grade Agarose, AMRESCO) and target bands were isolated from the gels by the band intercept method using NA 45 DEAE membranes (Schleicher and Schuell, Keene, NH). Primers 27U and 1036 L were used to amplify a 2.8 kb fragments from all 15 *Vitis* LOX containing BAC clones, which were cloned using the Topo-TA cloning kit according to manufacturer's instructions (Invitrogen Corp. Carlsbad, CA). Individual clones were sequenced using an ABI 377 automated fluorescent sequencer (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), and Big Dye sequencing kits (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used at one fourth the manufacturer's suggested volume. Sequence was assembled using Sequence Navigator v1.01 (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), until the complete 2.8 kb *Vitis* LOX sequence was obtained. Sequence analysis and comparison among the clones indicated several variants, of the LOX gene were present. PCR product from primer pair 1697U and 48L was used to obtain clones containing sequence in the 5' direction from the 2.8 Kb fragment and approximately 1.3 kb of sequence was obtained. Primer 1697U was then used with primer 1307L to amplify the entire 4.1 Kb *Vitis* LOX gene fragment. The fragment was amplified and cloned using the Topo-TA cloning kit according to manufacturer's instructions. Sequence analysis and comparison among the clones indicated at least three variants, of the LOX gene

were present. The 4.1 Kb fragment contained part of the first exon, as well as the remaining 8 exons present in the *Vitis* LOX gene. There was evidence indicating the different LOX genes were arrayed close together in a tandem pattern. External primers 1018U, 6588U and 145L were designed (OLIGO 5.0 Primer Analysis Software, National BioSciences Inc., Plymouth, MN) from the *Vitis* LOX sequence in an attempt to amplify intergenic regions between adjacent LOX genes. PCR product was cloned using the Topo-TA cloning kit according to manufacturer's instructions. Individual clones were sequenced using an ABI 377 automated fluorescent sequencer (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), and Big Dye sequencing kits (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) were used at one fourth the manufacturer's suggested volume. Sequence was aligned using Sequence Navigator v1.01 (PE Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA), and compared to LOX sequence in public databases and *Vitis* Lox sequence genevalued as part of the invention. Several clones had sequence on both ends of the clone with homology to LOX, indicating a cloned intergenic region. These cloned intergenic regions contained DNA sequence from the ninth and final exon of *Vitis* LOX, and from the first exon of *Vitis* LOX. Between the end sequences was a region containing both the 3' and 5' untranslated regions, which had no homology to any known sequences in the public databases. These results confirmed that there were three *Vitis* LOX genes organized in a tandem array. Lastly, the Genome Walker kit (Clontech Laboratories Inc., Palo Alto, CA) was used to extend sequence data in the 5' direction in an attempt to clone the 5'untranslated region of the first LOX gene in the array. LOX specific primers 2953L, 3020L, 3406L and 3461L were designed (OLIGO 5.0 Primer Analysis Software, National BioSciences Inc., Plymouth, MN) and used in conjunction with primers in the kit as per the manufacturer's instructions. Analysis of the DNA sequence obtained from this method failed to obtain the 5' end of the first LOX gene in the array, but confirmed the two intergenic regions identified earlier.

Table 7

Vitis genomic sequencing and PCR primers

LOX 1018U	SEQ ID NO: 24 CTACCTCCCAAACCGCCCA
LOX 1036L	SEQ ID NO: 25 TGGGCGGTTTGGGAGGTAG
LOX 1146U	SEQ ID NO: 26 TTCTTGCGATCTCCCTTATTGA
LOX 1167L	SEQ ID NO: 27 TCAATAAGGGGAGATGCCAAGAA
LOX 117L	SEQ ID NO: 28 TGACCTTGAATGCAGACTCGC
LOX 123U	SEQ ID NO: 29 GACTGGGATGAGGAGATTGGAGA
LOX 1361U	SEQ ID NO: 30 AACTGCTCTACCCACAAG
LOX 1380L	SEQ ID NO: 31 CTTGTGGGGTAGAGCAGTGT
LOX 145L	SEQ ID NO: 32 TCTCCAATCTCTCATCCCAGTC
LOX 1697U	SEQ ID NO: 33 CATGGTGATCCTGGTGAGTT
LOX 27U	SEQ ID NO: 34 TTACAGGGGAAAATTGGAAAAC
LOX 2953L	SEQ ID NO: 35 CCAAGTATGCTGGTTTCCAATTTTCC
LOX 3020L	SEQ ID NO: 36 CAGTCGAACGTGACCTTGAATGCAGAC
LOX 3406L	SEQ ID NO: 37 CTGTACTTGCGCAGTGGCCCTGGTGTT

LOX 3461L	SEQ ID NO: 38 CCATTCCTTAAGCTCTCCGTTCCATC
LOX 48L	SEQ ID NO: 39 GTTTTCCAATTTTCCCCTGTAA
LOX 625U	SEQ ID NO: 40 ATATGATTGATTTCTGTCTT
LOX 6588U	SEQ ID NO: 41 GTCCATTTGAAGAAGTGTGAGAC
LOX 69L	SEQ ID NO: 42 CTCAGGTATGGCATGAAAACATC
LOX 940L	SEQ ID NO: 43 AGCATTGATGAGGAATTTGTCG
LOX 950L	SEQ ID NO: 44 CCACTCCACCAGCATTGATG
LOX 97U	SEQ ID NO: 45 GCGAGTCTGCATTCAAGGTCA

5

10

15

Vitis LOX sequences were analyzed and assembled using Sequence Navigator v1.01 (PE Applied Biosystems). Two complete and unique *Vitis* LOX gene sequences were identified (SEQ ID 2 and SEQ ID 4). GENSCAN analysis software (GENSCAN Server, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA) was used to determine the gene structure, including exons, introns, and the predicted amino acid sequence. Both *Vitis* LOX genes contained 9 exons, as does the *Prunus Dulcis* LOX gene. In addition, the predicted amino acid structures are 96% identical to each other (SEQ ID 1 and SEQ ID 3), whereas the closest homology to another species is 76% and 78% to the *Prunus* LOX, for *Vitis* LOX SEQ ID 1 and 3 respectively.

Vitis LOX 1 Amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:1)

MKKKLLSIVSAITGENDKKKIEGTIVLMKKNVLDNFNAPVRDRVHEL
F
GQGVSLQLVSAVHGD PANGLOGKLGKPAYLEDWITTTITSLTAGESAFKVT
FDWDEEIGEPGAFIIRNNHHSEFYLRITLTLEDVPGRGRIHVCNSWVYPA
5 KHYKTDRVFFTNQTYLPSETPGPLRKYRKGELVNLRGDGTGELKEWDRVY
DYAYYNDLKGKPDRLKYARPVLGGSAEYPYPRGRTRGRPSEKDPKTESR
LPLVMSLNIYVPRDERFGHLKMSDFLAYALKSIVQFLPEFEALCDITPN
EFDSFQDVLDLYEGGIKVPPEGPLLDKIKDNI PLEMLKELVRTDGEHLFKF
PMPQVIKEDKSAWRTDEEFAREMLAGLNPVVIRLLQEFPPKSKLDPEVYG
10 NQNSSITKEHIENHLDDLTINEAMEKKRLFILDHHDVFMPLYLRINTTST
KTYASRTLLFLKDDGTLKPLAIELSLPHPNGDKFGAVNKVYTPAEDGVEG
SIWQLAKAYA AVNDSGYHQLLSHWLNTHAAIEFPFVIATNRQLSVLHPIHK
LLHPHFRDTMNNALARQILINAGGVVESTVFP SKYAMEMSSVVYKDWVL
TEQALPADL IKRGMAVEDSEAPHGLRLIDDYPYAVDGLEIWSA IETWVK
15 EYCSFYKTDENVQKDSSELQSWWKEVREEGHGDKDEPWPWKMRVTVELI
ETCTIIIWASALHA AVNFGQYPYAGYLPNRPTISR RFMPEEGTPEYEEL
KSNPDKAF LKTI T AQLQTL LGISLIEVLSRHSSDEVYLGQRDTP EWTLDT
TPLKAFEFKGRKLADIEEMIIDRNGNERPKNRVGPVKIPYTLLYPTSEGG
LTGKGIPNSVSI

Vitis LOX 1 sequence (SEQ ID NO: 2)

ATGAAGAAGAAGCTTCTTTCAATGTTAGTGCCATCACTGGGGAAAAATGA
TAAGAAGAAGATCGAGGGAAC TATGTGTGTGATGAAGAAGATGTGTTGG
ATTTTAATGACTTCAATGCACCGGTTCCGGGACCGGGTTCATGAGCTTTTT
25 GGACAGGGAGTCTCTCTGCAGCTCGTCAGTGCTGTTTCATGGTGATCCTGG
TGAGTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTCCTTCATGTTTTTGATGATGGGGTTGT
TGAAGTTGGAGGAGAGAGGTTGATACCGTTTTGTGAGGGTGAGATGGGT
TCTGAATTTTGATGATAGCAATTGGA AAAAGATGTGATTTTGG AAGAGG
CCAAGAGGGGTTGTATTCTCAGAGATGAGTCAAATGACTTTCTTGACAT
30 CTTCCATTCAACTGGGCACTTTTCTAACTGCTTTTGTTTTTGTGTTTTG
TTTTTAATGCTTTTGTTTTCTACTTCTTTCTCTGTTTATATTTCTTTTC
ATCAACCACTATACATGCCACCTAACTCAATATGAAATTTCCCATGCAGC

30

TTCAAATAATTTTAAATGCCCTGTTTGTGTTTCTGAGAAAATGGAACCTGG
 AAAGGCTTCCAGACTTTGTTTTCCTTCCCTCCATCTACTGTTCTAGCTCT
 TTTCTGATAAATTATGGCTCTTTCTACTTTGTTTGAAGGAGTTTCTCCCA
 5 AAAAGCAAGCTGGATCCTGAAGTTTATGGCAACCAAAACAGTTCAATAAC
 CAAAGAACACATAGAGAATCACCTGGATGACCTTACTATAAACGAGGTAA
 CGCTCTTAGGTTCCGTTCCTTTCAAACATAAATTTTCAATGTCGACATGTT
 AATTTTGTGCATTGGAACACAAGCCATAGTAAGTAAAAATGGTGCTTTT
 TACTAGGCAATGGAGAAGAAGAGGCTATTATATATAGATCACCATGATGT
 TTTCAATGCCATACCTGAGGAGGATAAACACAACCTCCACGAAAACTTACG
 10 CCTCAAGGACTCTCCTCTTCTGAAAGACGACGGAACCTTGAAGCCACTG
 GCGATTGAATTGAGCCTACCACATCCTAATGGGGATAAAATTCGGAGCTGT
 CAACAAAGTATACACACCAGCTGAAGATGGCGTTGAAGGTTCCATTTGGC
 AGCTGGCTAAAGCTTATGCTGCTGTGAATGACTCTGGCTATCATCAGCTC
 CTCAGCCACTGGTACGTAATCTCCCAAAGGAAAGTGGCTACAGTTGGGGC
 15 GTAAATCTGAAGCGGTTATGAATATCTTTGATGTTGGTTGCAGGTTGAA
 TACACATGCTGCAATTGAGCCATTGTGATGTGAACCAACAGGCAGCTCA
 GTGTGCTTCACCCAATTACAAAGCTTTTGATCCTCACTTCCGTGATACG
 ATGAATATAAATGCATTAGCTCGACAAAATCCTCATCAATGCTGGTGGAGT
 GGTGGAGAGCACAGTTTTCATCAAAATATGCCATGGAAATGTCATCTG
 20 TTGTTTACAAAGACTGGGTTCTCACTGAGCAAGCACCTCCTGCTGATCTC
 ATCAAGAGGTATATAAAATCTGTAGTGATGTTTCTTTTCTGCTGTGTC
 AATGAATCTAGTGAAAAATGTGATTTTCATCTAACTGATATGCTCCAAC
 TGGGCACCTCTTTCAGAGGAATGGCGGTTGAGGATTGAGGCGCCCTCATG
 GACTCCGCTACTGATAGATGACTACCCCTATGCTGTTGATGGACTTGGAG
 25 ATCTGGTCAGCTATTGAGACATGGGTGAAAAGAGTATTGCTCATTTCTACTA
 CAAGACAGATGAGATGGTCCAGAAAGACTCTGAGCTTCAGTCTCGGTGGA
 AGGAAGTCAGGGAAGAGGGTCATGGCGACAAGAAGGACGAGCCTTGGTGG
 CCTAAAAATGCGTACTGTCAAAGAGCTGATAGAAAATATGCACCATTTATCAT
 CTGGGTGGCTTCTGCTCTCCATGCTGCAAGTGAATTTTCGGGCAGTACCCCT
 30 ATGCAGGCTACCTCCCAAACCGCCCAACGATAAGCCGAGATTATGCCT
 GAAGAAGGCACTCCTGAGTATGAAGAACTCAAGTCCAATCTGATAAGGC
 TTTCTGAAAAACAATCACTGCCCAGCTGCAGACCCCTTCTTGGCATCTCCC
 TTATTGAGGTCTTTCCAGGCATTCTTCGATGAGGTTTATCTTGGACAG

AGAGACACTCCTGAATGGACCCCTGGACACAAACACCATTGAAAGCTTTTGA
 GAAATTCGGAAGGAAGCTGGCAGACATTGAAGAAATGATCATAGATAGAA
 ATGGAATGAGAGATTCAAGAACAGAGTTGGGCCTGTGAAGATACCATAC
 ACACGTGCTCTACCCACAAGCGAAGGTGGGCTTACTGGCAAAGGGATTCC
 5 CAACAGTGTCTCCATCTAAATTTTCCTGGAAAATCATGAGCACACTGCTG
 ATCAAGATGGCTTAAATGCACATTGCTAATATAGTATACTGTAATTTATA
 ATACCTATTTTTTCGACTTTGTAGGATTCATATTGATGCATATATTTATAA
 TAAGGAATATTTATTTGCTAGAAAATTGGGAGCTTTTCACTTTTTTTATG
 ATCTGTGCCACACTTAATGTTAAAAGATGAAGGTGAAGTAGCAAAACAGT
 10 TGATCTGAATGCGCAGCCATTGATATCAGGAATCAAAGTCAGATGGTGCA
 AATGCTCTCAAAACATCCACCCTCCACAAAATTATCTATAATTTACATG
 TTAACAAGAACTCAAGAGTGAGTAAGAACTATGTTGAGAAATACTTTCT
 GAAACCACTGAGGAAAGTGTCATTTGAAGAAGTGTGAGACTCTTACCTA
 AGAAGTGTCTGTAGATTTGAATAGTAACGCCAATATCTCTATCAAATCT
 15 TTATTATTACATGTATTAGATTTTGATATGATGCTTGGATAGTATGCCTA
 TAAACAAATGCATCCCCGAGCTTCTTCTTTGTATATCTTCTGCTCTCAC
 ATTCCTGGCTTTCTTCTGCTTAGCTTTGTTGTTGTTG

Vitis LOX 2 amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO: 3)

20 MIHSIVGAITGENDKKIKGTVVLMMKNVLDNFDFNASVLDRVHELLGQG
 VPLQLVSAVHGDPAINGLQGGIKGPAYLEDWITTTITSLTAGESAFKVTDFW
 DEEIGEPGAFIIRNNHSEFYLRITLTLEDVPGRGRIHFVNCNSWVPAQHY
 KTDRVFFTNQTYLPSETPGPLRKYREGELVNLRGDGTGELKEWDRVYDYA
 YYNDLGNPDRDLKYARPVLGGSAEYPYPRRGRTGRPPSEKDPNTESRLPL
 25 VMSLNIYVPRDERFGHLKMSDFLAYALKSIVQFLLEFEALCDITHNEFD
 SFQVDLDLYEGGIKVPEGPLLDKIDNIPLEMLKELVRTDGEHLKFPMP
 QVIKEDKSAWRTDEEFAREMLAGLNPVVIRLLQEFPPKSKLDPEVYGNQN
 SITKEHIEHNLDDLITINEAMEKKRLFILDHHDVFMPYLRRINTTSTKTYA
 SRTLLFLKDDGTLKPLAIELSLPHPSGDKFGAVNKVYTPAENGVEGSIWQ
 30 LAKAYAAVNDSGYHQLLSHWLNTHAAIEPFVIATNRQLSVLHPHKLHLP
 HFRDTMNNALARQILINAGGVVESTVFP SKYAMEMSSVYKDWLWTEQA
 LPADLIKRGMAVEDSEAPHGLRLLLIDDYPYAVDGLIWSAIEWVKEYCS

FYYKTDEMVOQKDELQSWWKEVREEGHGDKKDEPWPKMHTVKELIETCT
IIIWVASALHAAVNFGQYPYAGYLPNRPTISRFRMPEEGTPEYEELKSNP
DKAFLKTITATLQTLGLISLIEVLSRHSSDEVYLGQRDTPPEWTLDTPLK
AFEKFGRLADIEEMIIDRNGNERFKNRVGPVKIPYTLTYPTSEGLGTGK
5 GIPNSVSI

Vitis LOX 2 Sequence (SEQ ID NO:4)

ATGATTCATTCAATTGTTGGTGCCATTACTGGCGAAAATGATAAGAAGAA
GATCAAGGGAACGTGTGTGTGATGAAGAAGAATGTGTGGATTTTAATG
10 ACTTCAATGCATCGGTTCTGGACCGGGTTCATGAGCTGTGGGACAGGGA
GTCCCTCTGCAGCTCGTCAGTGCTGTTTCATGGTGATCCTGGTGAGTTTTT
TATTTTATTTTATTTTATTTTATTTTATTTTTCATGTTTTTGATGATGGGGTTA
TTGAAGTTGGGGGAGAGAGAATGATGCCGTTTGTGAGGGGTGAGATGG
GTTTGTAGTTTGTGATGATGGGAGTTGGAAGAAGATGTGTTTTTGGGAAGA
15 GGTCAGAGGGGTATTTCTCAGAAATGAGTCAATGAGTTTCTTGACATC
TTCCATTCAACTGGGCACTTTTCTAAGTGCTTTTGTTTTTTGTGTTTTGT
GTTTTTGTTTTTGATGCTTTTGTAGCAAATGGGTTACAGGGGAAAAATTGG
AAAACCAGCATACTTGAAGACTGGATTACCACAATAACTTCTTTAACCG
CGGGCAGTCTGCATTCAAGGTCACGTTTCGACTGGGATGAGGAGATTGGA
20 GAGCCAGGGGCATTCTATAATTAGAAACAATCACCACAGTGAGTTTTACCT
CAGGACTCTCACTCTTGAAGATGTTCTTGACGTGGCAGAATTCACTTTG
TTTGTAATTCTCGGGTCTACCCTGCTCAGCACTACAAAACGACCGTGTT
TTCTTCACTAATCAGGTAAGACTAATTTACTTGTATCTAGGAGAGTCTGC
TGTGGCATTGTGGCTCATTGAGCTTAGGCAAGGAGAATTGTCTGCTAAAG
25 GAATGTGTTTTATTTATCTGCTGCAGACATATCTTCCAAGTGAAACACCA
GGGCCACTGCGCAAGTACAGAGAAGGGGAACGTGGTGAATCTGAGGGGAGA
TGGAACCGGAGAGCTTAAGGAATGGGATCGAGTGTATGACTATGCTTACT
ATAATGATTTGGGGAATCCAGACAGGGATCTCAAAATACGCCCGCCCTGTG
CTGGGAGGATCTGCAGAGTATCCTTATCCCAGGAGGGGAAGAACTGGTAG
30 ACCACCATCTGAAAAAGGTAGATATTTGATGCAAAAATTCATATTGTTTT
CTCATGCTTTTATCATAAAAGGATGAATATGATTGATTTCTGCTCTTCTT
TTAATTAACAGATCCCAACACCGAGAGCAGATTGCCACTTGTGATGAGCT
TAAACATATATGTTCCAAGAGATGAAAGATTTGGTCACCTGAAGATGTCA

GACTTCCTGGCTTATGCCCTGAAATCCATAGTTCAATTCTCTCCCTGA
GTTTGAGGCTCTATGTGACATCACCCACAATGAGTTTGACAGCTTCCAAG
ATGTATTAGACCTCTACGAAGGAGGAATCAAGGTCCCAGAGGGCCCTTTA
CTGGACAAAATTAAGGACAACATCCCTCTTGAGATGCTCAAGGAACCTGT
5 TCGTACTGATGGGGAACATCTCTCAAGTTCCCAATGCCCAAGTCATCA
AAGGTACTGCATACATCTAACATCTTGTAATCTTTGAAGCCAGATTTATA
TATTTATTTTTTCGTAATAATTGATGACGTTTTTATCATGCTGGAGCAGAGG
ATAAGTCTGCATGGAGGACCGATGAAGAATTTGCAAGAGAAATGCTGGCT
GGACTCAACCCAGTTGTCATCCGTCTACTCCAAGTAAACTACAGCTTCCT
10 TTCAAATATTTTTAAATGCCCTGTTTGTCTTCTGAGAAAATGGAACCTGG
AAAGGCTTCCAGACTTTGTTTTCTTTCCCTCCATCTACTGTCTAGCTCT
TTTCTGATAATTATTGGCTTTTCTACTTTGTTTGCAGGAGTTTCTCCA
AAAAGCAAGCTGGATCCTGAAGTTTATGGCAACCAAAACAGTTCAATAAC
CAAAGAACACATAGAGAATCACCTGGATGACCTTACTATAAACGAGGTAA
15 CGCTCTTAGGTTCCCTTCTTTTCAGACTAAATTTTTCAATGTCGACATGTT
AATTTTTTGCATTGGAACACAAGCCATAGTAAGTAAAAATGGTGCTTTT
TACTAGGCAATGGAGAAGAAGAGGCTATTATATATAGATCACCATGATGT
TTTCATGCCATACCTGAGGAGGATAAACACAACCTCCACGAAAACTTATG
CCTCAAGGACTCTCCTCTTCTGAAAGACGACGGAACCTTGAAGCCACTG
20 GCGATTGAATTGAGCCTACCACATCCTAGTGGGGATAAATTTGGAGCTGT
CAACAAAGTATATACGCCAGCTGAAAAATGGTGTTGAAGGTTCCATTGGC
AGCTGGCTAAAAGCTTATGCTGCTGTGAATGACTCTGGCTATCATCAGCTC
CTCAGCCACTGGTATGTAATATCCCAAAGGAAAGTGAATACAGTTTGGGCT
TAAATCTGAAGCGGGTTGTGAATATCTTTGATGTTGGTTGCAGGTTGAATA
25 CACATGCTGCAATTGAGCCATTGTGATTTGCAACCAACAGGCAGCTCAGCG
TGCTTCATCCAATTCACAAGCTTTTGCATCCTCACTTCCGTGATACAATGA
ATATAAATGCATTAGCTCGACAAATCCTCATCAATGCTGGTGGAGTGGTGG
AGAGCACAGTTTTTCCATCAAAGTATGCCATGGAAATGTCATCTGTTGTTT
ACAAAGACTGGGTTCTTACTGAGCAAGCACTTCTGCTGATCTCATCAAGA
30 GGTATATAAATACTGTTAGTGATTGTTTTCTTTCTGCTGTGGAATGAATC
TAGTGAAAATTGTGATTTTCATCTAACTGATATGCTGCAACTTGGGCACCT
TTTCAGAGGAATGGCGGTTGAGGATTCAGAGGCTCCTCATGGACTCCGCT
ACTGATAGATGACTACCCCTATGCTGTTGATGGACTTGAGATCTGGTCAGC

TATTGAGACATGGGTGAAAGAGTATTGCTCATTC TACTACAAGACAGATGA
GATGGTCCAGAAAAGACTCTGAGCTTCAGTCC TGGTGAAGGAAGTCAGGGA
AGAGGGTCATGGCGACAAGAAGGACGAGCCCTGGTGGCC TAAAATGCATAC
TGTCAAAGAGCTGATAGAAAACATGCACCA TTATCATCTGGGTGGCTTCTG
5 TCTCCATGCTGCAGTGAATTTCTGGGCAGTACCCTTATGCAGGCTACCTCCC
AAACCGCCCAACGATAAGCCGCAGATT CATGCCTGAAGAAGGCACCTCCTGA
GTATGAAGAACTCAAGTCCAATCCTGATAAGGCTTTCCTGAAAACAATCAC
TGCCCAGCTGCAGACCCCTCTTGGCATCTCCCTTATTTGAGGTCCCTTCCAG
GCATTCTTCCGATGAGGTTTATCTTTGGACAGAGAGACACTCCTGAATGGAC
10 CCTGGACACAACACCATTGAAAGCTTTTGAGAAATTCGGAAGGAAGCTGGC
AGACATTGAAGAAATGATCATAGATAGAAATGGAATGAGAGATTCAAGAA
CAGAGTTGGGCCCTGTGAAGATACCATACACACTGCTCTACCCCAACGCGA
AGGTGGGCTTACTGGCAAAGGGATTCCCAACAGTGTCTCCATCTAAATTTT
CCTGGAAAAATCATGAGCACACTGCTGATCAAGATGGCTTAAATGCACATG
15 CTAATATAGTATACTGTAATTTATAATACCTATTTTTCGACTTTGTAGGAT
TCATATTGATGCATATATTTATAATAAGGAATTTATTTATTGCTAGAAAATT
GGGAGCTTTTCAC TTTTATGATCTGTGCCACACTTAATGTTAAAAGAT
GAAGGTGAAGTAGCAAAACAGTTGATCTGAATGCGCAGCCATGATATCAG
GAATCAAAGTCAGATGGTGCAAATGCTCTCAAAACATCCACCCTCCCACAA
20 AATTATCTATAATTTACATGTTAACAAGAAGTCAAGAGTGAGTAAGAACT
ATGTTGAGAAATAC TTTCTGAAACCACTGAGGAAAGTGTCATTTGAAGAA
GTGTGAGACTCTTACCTAAGAAGTGCTGTGATATTGAATAGTAAGTCCCA
ATATCTCTATCAAACTTTATTTATTACATGTATTAGATTTTGATATGATGC
TTGGATAGTATGCC TATAAAACAAATGCATCCCCGAGCTTCTCTTTGTATATA
25 TTCTCTGCTCTCACATTTCTGGCTTTCTTCTGCTTAGCTTTGTTGTTGTTG

Numerous modification and variations in the practice of the invention are expected to occur to those skilled in the art upon consideration of the presently preferred embodiments thereof.